

[7th February 1925]

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I move that the Bill as amended in the Select Committee and as further amended in the Council be passed into law."

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I second it."

The motion was carried.

The Bill was passed into law.

VII

MOTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

RESTORATION OF THE SUPPLY CHANNEL FROM THE KODAKKAL TANK TO THE SURAI TANK IN THE NORTH ARCOT DISTRICT.

Diwan Bahadur W. VIJAYARAGHAVA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I move the resolution that stands in my name and which runs as follows:—

'That this Council recommends to the Government that the supply channel leading water from the Kodakkal tank to the Surai tank in the North Arcot district which has fallen into disrepair and disuse may be restored and repaired without further delay'."

Rai Bahadur T. M. NARASIMHACHARLU:—"I second it."

* The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I had the advantage of having a personal talk with the hon. Member who has been responsible for the motion. Our difficulty with regard to this question was on account of the conflicting rights between the Zemindari and the Inamdar tenants and the Government and the possibility of litigation between these tenants and the Government, should the latter embark upon this project. The Superintending Engineer has been asked to report on this matter, and he has now suggested modification which may possibly solve the difficulty. My hon. Friend has been shown the papers relating to this matter. We have asked for a report from the Collector and, if on receipt of that report we find it possible to take up this project without embarking on costly and unnecessary litigation, we shall do so. That is all we can say at the present moment pending the receipt of the report from the Collector."

Diwan Bahadur W. VIJAYARAGHAVA MUDALIYAR:—"I may say that the original channel has fallen into disrepair and that the Public Works Department who were approached for repairing and restoring it inspected the channel and said there was some difficulty in finding means to take the water to the tank, and that it was likely to involve the Government in litigation. Therefore the proposal was given up by the Government. The ryots in the village say that the views of Government about litigation are all imaginary, and that the ryots are not particular about the way of the channel. All that they want is water for their fields. If the Government undertake to see that the ryots get water as early as possible they will be satisfied. Numbers of years have been spent in investigation. I only hope that the hon. the Law Member will see that the grievances of the ryots are redressed as early as possible. However, in view of the sympathetic reply of the hon. the Law Member I beg to withdraw my resolution."

The resolution was by leave withdrawn.